

opening and wherein a notch in the form of a partial groove is located in one of the surfaces forming the channel at an edge of the sample application opening so that one side of the edge of the sample application opening is at least partially discontinuous and the surface opposite to the notch is exposed and contacting the edge of the sample application opening broken by the notch with the liquid sample so that the liquid sample is transported by capillary forces into the channel.


REMARKS

The present application is a 371 (national phase) patent application of International Patent Application No. PCT/EP98/07854, International Filing Date December 3, 1998. Claims 1, 6, and 8 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter claimed therein. Claims 2-4 and 7 have been amended so that they depend from pending claims and claim 4 has been amended to remove its multiple dependency. Claims 9-16 have been added. The claim amendments and new claims find full support throughout the specification and drawings. No new matter is added by virtue of the new claims or by the amendments to the claims.

The claims as submitted herein are believed to be in condition for allowance, and allowance of the application is respectfully requested. In addition, it is respectfully requested that this paper be considered as a Petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response and add fees to Deposit Account Number 50-0877 with reference to (RDID 0043 US).

Respectfully submitted,

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Jill L. Woodburn, Reg. No. 39,874
The Law Office of Jill L. Woodburn, L.L.C.
6633 Old Stonehouse Dr.
Newburgh, IN 47630
Telephone No.: (812) 842-2660
Facsimile No.: (812) 842-2660

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